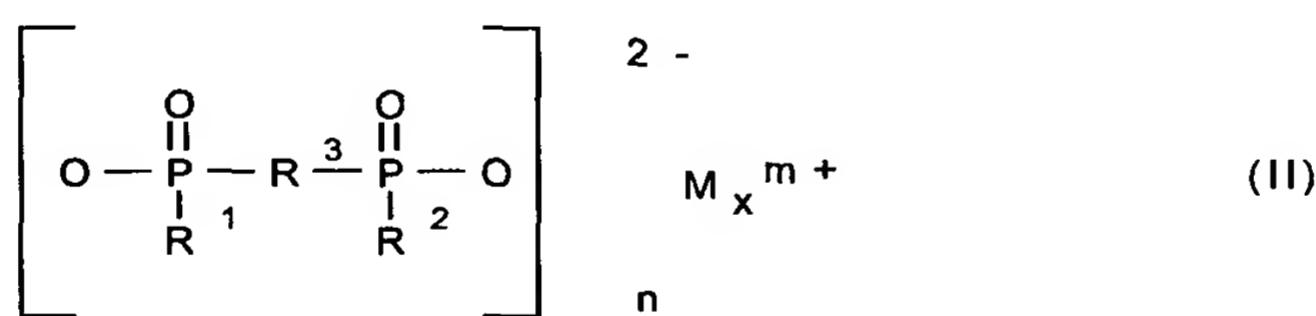
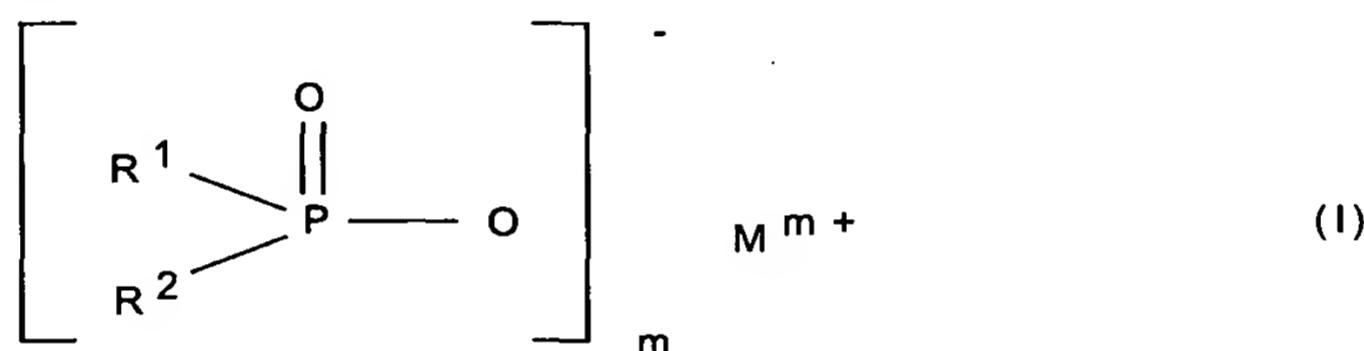


Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, ~~comprised of~~^{comprising} an organophosphorus flame retardant component, and ~~of~~^{at} least one dust-reduction additive.

2. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the organophosphorus flame-retardant component is selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II), a polymer of formula (I), a polymer of formula (II), and a mixture of polymers of formula (I) and (II) and/or polymers of these (component A),



where

R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ -alkyl, linear or branched, and/or aryl;

R^3 is $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkylene, linear or branched, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -arylene, -alkylarylene, or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg , Ca , Al , Sb , Sn , Ge , Ti , Zn , Fe , Zr , Ce , Bi , Sr , Mn , Li , Na , K , and/or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4;

x is from 1 to 4.

3. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~claim 1 or 2~~, wherein M is calcium, aluminum or zinc.

4. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R¹ and R² are identical or different and are C₁-C₆-alkyl, linear or branched, and/or phenyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein R¹ and R² are identical or different, and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl, and/or phenyl.

6. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein R³ is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene, or n-dodecylene; phenylene, or naphthylene, methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene, or tert-butylnaphthylene; phenylmethlene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene, or phenylbutylene.

7. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame retardant component also comprise(s) further comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of melamine phosphate, dimelamine phosphate, melamine pyrophosphate, melamine polyphosphates, melam polyphosphates, melem polyphosphates, and/or melon polyphosphates.

8. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising a melamine condensation products, such as product selected from the group consisting of~~ melam, melem, and/or melon.

9. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of~~ oligomeric esters of tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate with aromatic polycarboxylic acids, benzoguanamine, tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate, allantoin, glycoluril, melamine, melamine cyanurate, dicyandiamide, and/or guanidine.

10. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising at least one nitrogen-containing phosphates-phosphate of the formulae $(NH_4)_y H_{3-y} PO_4$ and, respectively, or $(NH_4 PO_3)_z$, where y is from 1 to 3 and z is from 1 to 10 000.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising, as component B, a synthetic inorganic compound and/or a mineral product.~~

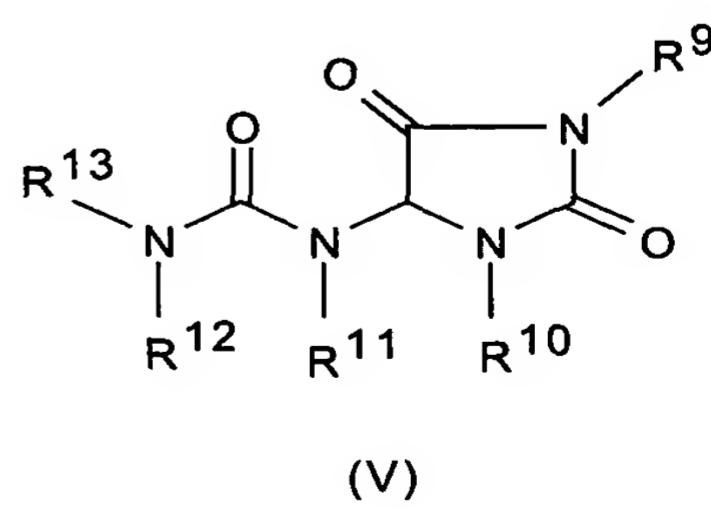
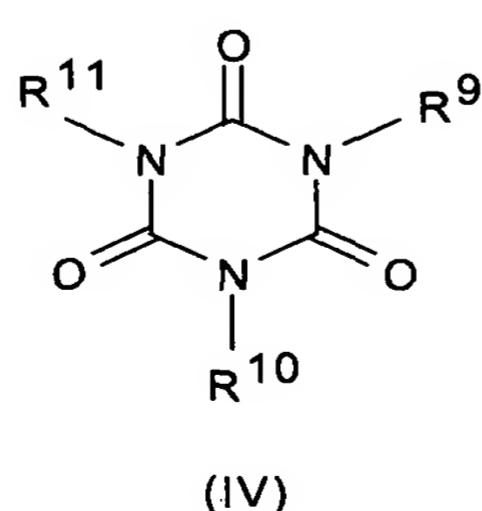
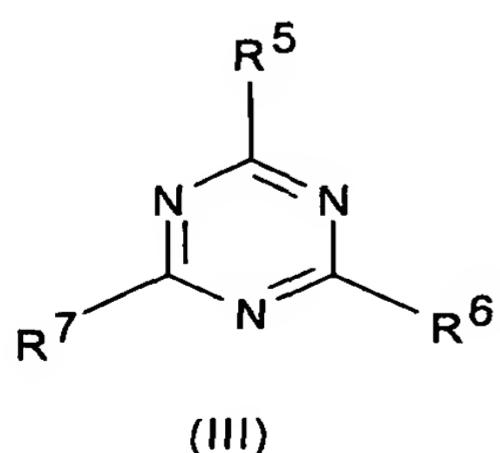
12. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 11, wherein component B is selected from the group consisting of an oxygen compound of silicon, is magnesium compounds, is metal carbonates of metals of the second main group of

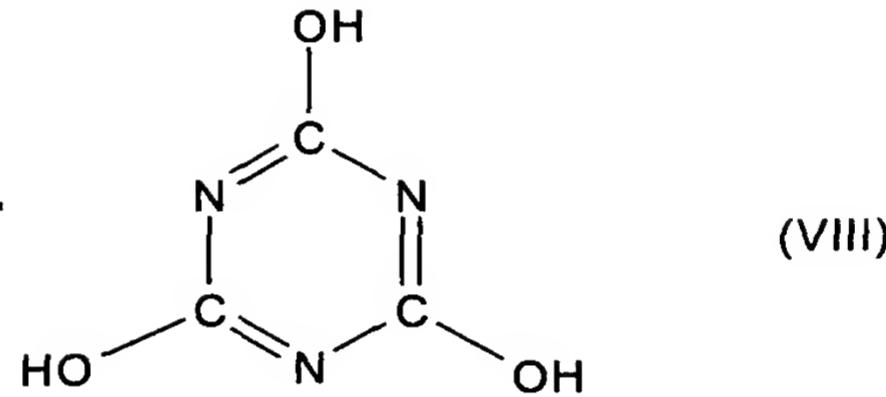
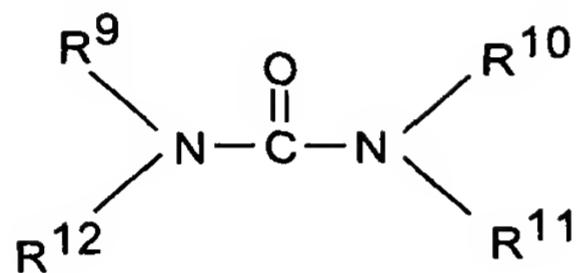
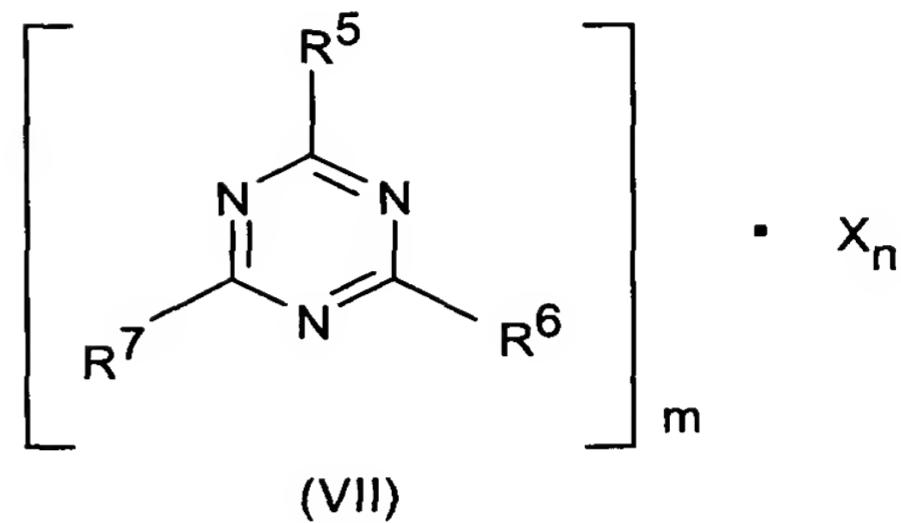
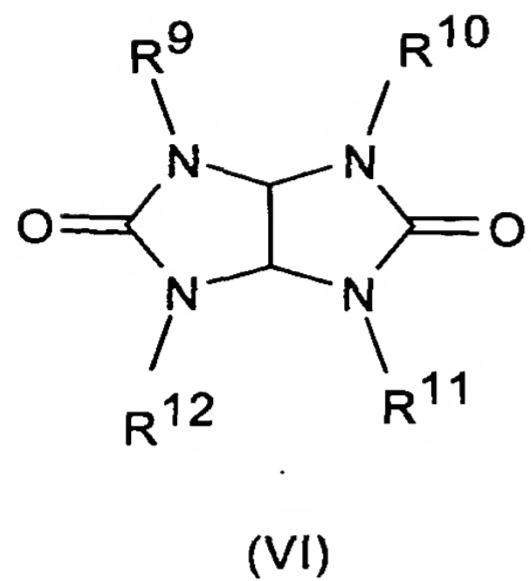
the Periodic Table, ~~is~~ red phosphorus, ~~is~~ zinc compounds, ~~or is~~ and aluminum compounds.

13. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 12, wherein the oxygen compounds of silicon are selected from the group consisting of salts and esters of orthosilicic acid and condensation products thereof, ~~are~~ silicates, zeolites, and silicas, ~~are~~ glass powder, glass/ceramic powder, ~~or and~~ ceramic powder; wherein the magnesium compounds are selected from the group consisting of magnesium hydroxide, hydrotalcites, magnesium carbonates, ~~or and~~ magnesium calcium carbonates; wherein the zinc compounds are selected from the group consisting of zinc oxide, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, zinc phosphate, zinc borate, ~~or and~~ zinc sulfides; and wherein the aluminum compounds are selected from the group consisting of aluminum hydroxide ~~or and~~ aluminum phosphate.

14. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 13~~, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising at least one nitrogen compounds compound as further component C.

15. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, wherein the at least one nitrogen compounds compound are those of selected from the group consisting of the formulae (III) to (VIII) or and mixtures thereof





where

R^5 to R^7 are hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, or C_5 - C_{16} -cycloalkyl or -alkylcycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy function or with a C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkyl function, or are C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl, C_1 - C_8 -alkoxy, -acyl, or -acyloxy, are C_6 - C_{12} -aryl or -arylalkyl, are $-OR^8$ or $-N(R^8)R^9$, or else are N-alicyclic systems or N-aromatic systems,

R^8 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, C_5 - C_{16} -cycloalkyl or -alkylcycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy function or with a C_1 - C_4 -hydroxyalkyl function, or is C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl, C_1 - C_8 -alkoxy, -acyl, or -acyloxy, or is C_6 - C_{12} -aryl or -arylalkyl,

R^9 to R^{13} are the groups of R^8 , or else $-O-R^8$,

m and n , independently of one another, are 1, 2, 3, or 4,

X is acids-an acid which can form adducts with triazine compounds (III).

16. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 15, wherein the composition~~

~~and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising at least one carbodiimide-carbodiimides.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, wherein the dust-reduction additive comprises alkylalkoxylates having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms and from 1 to 80 EO units per mole of alcohol.

18. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, wherein the dust-reduction additive ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of paraffin oils and/or mineral oils with boiling points above about 360°C, soft paraffin wax with a melting point of from about 38 to 60°C, fully refined paraffin waxes with melting points of from about 60 to 62°C, and/or chlorinated paraffin oil, with a chlorine content of 70%, and with a viscosity of 1 200 centipoise.

19. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, wherein the dust-reduction additive ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of silicone oils with molar masses of from 1 000 to 150 000 g/mol and viscosities of from 10 to 1 000 000 mPas; halogen-substituted silicones, or-functionalized silicones; methylphenylpolysiloxanes, or-copolymers of siloxanes; castor oil, glycerol, di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate, or-polyesters of phthalic acid; aromatic and aliphatic esters of phosphoric acid, or-else anionic polyester polyurethanes; ethylene glycol, propylene glycol and/or butylene glycol, their oligomers, and/or their polymers, and/or their ethers.

20. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, wherein the dust-reduction additive ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of naturally

occurring, chemically modified, and/or synthetic waxes, ~~preferably carnauba waxes and montan waxes.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 20~~claim 1, which has a median particle size of from 0.1 to 1 000 μm , ~~preferably from 1 to 100 μm .~~

22. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 21~~, which ~~has~~claim 1, ~~having~~ an average bulk density of from 80 to 800 g/l, ~~preferably from 200 to 700 g/l.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 22~~claim 1, wherein the ratio of amount of dust-reduction additive to that of organophosphorus flame-retardant component is from 1:999 to 1:4, ~~preferably from 1:99 to 1:19.~~

24. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing pulverulent flame-retardant compositions with low dust level, as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 23~~claim 1, ~~which comprises~~comprising the steps of emulsifying the dust-reduction additive in water and then adding ~~this~~the emulsion to an aqueous suspension of the organophosphorus flame-retardant component, and stirring at from 20 to 200°C for from 0.1 to 100 hours, removing the solid, washing with water, and ~~then~~ drying.

25. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing pulverulent flame-retardant compositions with low dust level, as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 23~~claim 1, ~~which comprises~~comprising the steps of adding, in a suitable mixer, the dust-reduction additive in liquid form to the organophosphorus flame-retardant component, which has been set in motion, and mixing at from 20 to 200°C for from 0.1 to 100 hours, and then drying at from 20 to 400°C.

26. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing pulverulent flame-retardant compositions with low dust level, as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 23~~claim 1, ~~which comprises~~comprising the steps of adding, in a suitable mixer, the solid dust-reduction additive in solid form to the organophosphorus flame-retardant component, which has been set in motion, mixing for from 0.1 to 100 hours, and during ~~that process~~the mixing step heating to the melting point of the dust-reduction additive.

27. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant polymer molding composition, ~~which comprises~~comprising a pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 23~~claim 1.

28. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in claim 27, ~~which comprises~~comprising:

from 1 to 50% by weight of pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level,

from 1 to 99% by weight of thermoplastic polymer or a mixture of the samethermoplastic polymers,

from 0 to 60% by weight of additives, and

from 0 to 60% by weight of filler.

29. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in claim 27 ~~or 28~~, ~~which comprises~~comprising:

from 5 to 30% by weight of pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level,

from 5 to 90% by weight of the thermoplastic polymer or a mixture of the samethermoplastic polymers,

from 5 to 40% by weight of additives, and

from 5 to 40% by weight of filler.

30. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 27 to 29~~, ~~which also comprises~~ components B

and/or claim 1, further comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a synthetic inorganic compound, a mineral product and a nitrogen compound.

31. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in one or more of claims 27 to 30claim 28, wherein the thermoplastic polymers arepolymer or mixture of thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, orand blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene).

32. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in one or more of claims 27 to 31claim 28, wherein the thermoplastic polymer or the mixture of thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyester, orand ABS.

33. (Currently Amended) A polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber, comprising a pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 23claim 1, wherein the polymer article is selected from the group consisting of a polymer molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament and a polymer fiber.

34. (Currently Amended) A polymer molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiberarticle as claimed in claim 33, wherein the polymer is a thermoplastic or thermoset polymer.

35. (Currently Amended) A polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiberas claimed in claim 33 or 34, wherein the thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, or blends or

polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), polyamide, polyester, and/or ABS.

36. (Currently Amended) A polymer ~~molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiberarticle~~ as claimed in claim 33 or 34, wherein the thermoset polymers are selected from the group consisting of formaldehyde polymers, epoxy polymers, melamine polymers, or phenolic resin polymers, and/or polyurethanes.

37. (Currently Amended) A polymer ~~article~~ ~~molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 33 to 36, which comprises~~claim 33, comprising:
from 1 to 50% by weight of pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level,
from 1 to 99% by weight of polymer or a mixture of ~~the same~~polymers,
from 0 to 60% by weight of additives, and
from 0 to 60% by weight of filler.

38. (Currently Amended) A polymer ~~article~~ ~~molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 33 to 37, which comprises~~as claimed in claim 33 comprising
from 5 to 30% by weight of pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level,
from 5 to 90% by weight of polymer or a mixture of ~~the same~~polymers,
from 5 to 40% by weight of additives, and
from 5 to 40% by weight of filler.

39. (New) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dust-reduction additive is selected from the group consisting of carnauba waxes and montan waxes.

40. (New) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level as claimed in claim 1, which has a median particle size of from 1 to 100 μ m.
41. (New) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level as claimed in claim 1, having an average bulk density of from 200 to 700g/l.
42. (New) The pulverulent flame-retardant composition with low dust level, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of amount of dust-reduction additive to that of organophosphorus flame-retardant component is from 1:99 to 1:19.